



# VP ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

AN ASSOCIATION OF VETERANS WHO SERVED WITH THE NAVAL AIR RESERVE PATROL SQUADRONS BASED AT NAS SQUANTUM MA, NAS SOUTH WEYMOUTH MA, AND NAS BRUNSWICK ME

**SPECIAL ANNUAL REUNION ISSUE**

**OCTOBER 2008**

Welcome to a special (abbreviated) annual reunion issue of the VP Association newsletter. The purpose of this issue is to report a little bit about the recent annual reunion and to inform you of a few special fund-raisers benefiting the VP Association's admin fund. As always, please direct all general VP Association-related inquiries or correspondence to William Hanigan, 23 Parkview Terrace, Duxbury MA 02332, 781-585-4950, [vpassociation@aol.com](mailto:vpassociation@aol.com). Please send all newsletter-related correspondence to Marc J. Frattasio, P.O. Box 30, Pembroke MA 02359, [marc\\_frattasio@yahoo.com](mailto:marc_frattasio@yahoo.com).

## **RECCO:**



*VP-92 P-3A "Lima Yankee Two" is taking off from runway 17/35 at NAS South Weymouth shortly after the squadron transitioned from Neptunes to Orions in 1975. Many thanks to Edmund Sobieray for this photo. Got something similar to share? If so, please contact Marc J. Frattasio.*

## **ILL SHIPMATES IN NEED OF CHEERING UP:**

James Dempsey (VP-92) at 6234 Bradley Way, Virginia Beach VA 23464, 757-424-1266, [dejams@aol.com](mailto:dejams@aol.com); George Mullin (VP-911) at 49 Melrose Street #1H, Melrose MA 02176, 781-665-7830; and Robert Allen Shelton (VP-92) at 34 Gibson Street, Malden MA 02148, 781-321-3356, [robertallen75@earthlink.net](mailto:robertallen75@earthlink.net) have been battling various illnesses recently. All would appreciate hearing from their friends and shipmates.

## **THE 2008 VP ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REUNION:**

The VP Association's 2008 annual reunion was held at the Officer's Club at Hanscom AFB in Bedford, MA on Saturday September 20. Sixty-eight members and their guests attended this year.

The guest list included Robert Allen (VP-92), Morrison Badoud (VP-92), Bill Bowe (VP-92), Russell and Jane Broderick (VP-92), Gene Buckley (VP-92), Skip Burton (VP-92), Kevin Cahill (VP-92), Edward Callahan (VP-92), Tom Carrol (VP-92), Frank Collins, Willard Cortiss, Marc Courtemanche (VP-92), Fran Creney (VP-92), Jim and Margaret DiMare (VP-92), Kenneth Dion (VP-92), Peter Fern (VP-92), Al and Maureen Firrohr (VP-92), Jim Fitzgerald (VP-92), Marc and Faith Frattasio (VP-92), Ernest Godzur (VP-92), William and Barbara Hanigan (VP-92), Art Happenny (VP-92), Bob Hickock (VP-92), Fred Hicks (VP-913), Frank Holland (VP-92), Robert Kowalewski (VP-92), Manuel Kramer (VP-63Z4), Paul Lapinski (VP-92), Dana Larsen (VP-92), Paul Levache (VP-92), Al Leblanc (VP-92), Richard Lowe (VP-92), Bob Mandeville (VP-92), Bradley Mann (VP-912), Douglas Mann, Joseph McCann (VP-92), Phyllis McCormack, Charles McCloskey (VP-92), Paul McCloskey (VP-92), Leonard McCrane (VP-92), Norman Mitchell, Richard Norris (VP-92), Peter Nott (VP-92), Walter O'Connell (VP-92), Thomas O'Connor (VP-915), David O'Donnell (VP-92), Arthur Ricca (VP-92), Edward Sabatini (VP-92), Scott Savelle (VP-92), William Scaccia (VP-92), Wayne Seer (VP-92), Robert and Mary Shelton (VP-92), Ken and Toby Sherman (VP-92), Harvey and Judy Shore (VP-92), Richard Smith (VP-92), Fred Squires (VP-92), George Swallow (VP-914), and Herb and Sheila Tallent (VP-92).

If you weren't able to attend the reunion this year, perhaps you can plan to join us in 2009.

## **ADMIN FUND DONATIONS:**

As you know, the VP Association has no dues but voluntary contributions are always welcome to help defray the cost of printing and mailing newsletters to shipmates who do not have e-mail. We'd like to thank Ray Guerin (VP-92), Leonard McCrane (VP-92), and George Mullen (VP-911) for their recent contributions to the administration fund.

## **VP-92 POLO SHIRTS**



The VP Association sold light gray polo shirts featuring VP-92's "Minuteman" insignia embroidered in red, white, blue, and black as shown here at the annual reunion and now they are also available via mail order. The shirts, which are available in a wide range of sizes, cost \$35 postage-paid per shirt. All proceeds from the sale of these shirts will go to the admin fund, which helps pay to send newsletters to shipmates who do not have e-mail service. A mail-order form for these shirts is located on the last page of this special annual reunion issue of the newsletter.

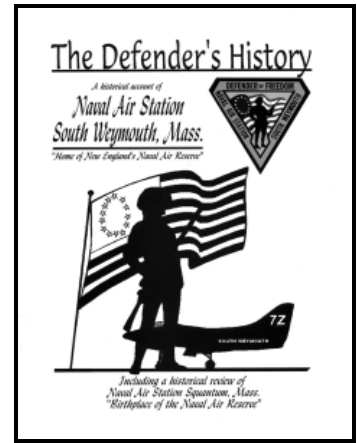
## **VP ASSOCIATION BALL CAPS**



The VP Association is selling embroidered ball caps as an admin fund fund-raiser. There are two styles available. The first (left) has a P-2 Neptune with the words "Two Turning and Two Burning VP" on the front. The second (right) has a P-3 Orion and the words "United States Navy Minutemen VP" on the front. Color choices are blue or khaki and there are either gold naval aviator or aircrew wings on the back. The ball caps cost \$20 each postage-paid. Use the mail-order form on the last page to order.

### **SPECIAL ADMIN FUND FUND-RAISER:**

Reprints of the formerly long-out-of-print “*Squantum Weekend Warriors*” and “*The Defender’s History*” are still available for \$12 each plus shipping. Go to <http://www.lulu.com> to order on-line using your credit card. All proceeds from the sale of both books go to the Admin Fund. While you are on the Lulu Press web site check out the VP-92 book by your newsletter editor, “*The Minutemen of VP-92: The Story of New England’s Naval Air Reserve Patrol Squadron*” and ANA Patriot Squadron member Bill Horsch’s Navy memoir, “*ATCS Bill Horsch*”.



### **HELP WANTED:**

John James, the civilian PAO for NAS Brunswick, ME, is working on a book about the history of the base that will be published before it is closed in 2010. Mr. James is seeking photographs of people, aircraft, and scenes on NAS Brunswick (especially prior to 1970) and is also looking for Brunswick veterans from all eras who would be willing to write brief personal remembrances about their experiences while they were assigned to the base. If you can help Mr. James contact him at John James, Public Affairs, NAS Brunswick, NAS Brunswick ME 04011.

### **NEWS OF INTEREST:**

NAS Brunswick has received funding from the BRAC and other sources to establish a maritime patrol aviation museum on the base for when it is closed in 2010. This will be the first museum of its kind in the world. The maritime patrol aviation museum is to be housed in the former base chapel and will be located next to a P-3C Orion and an SP-2E Neptune. The Neptune, which is the VP-21 aircraft that has been on static display near the base’s main gate for many years, will have its wings removed and will be trucked down to the park next to the chapel where the P-3 is presently located. Note, NAS Brunswick will be closed before you know it. VP-8, the first squadron scheduled to leave the base, is deploying in November and will go directly to NAS Jacksonville, FL when it returns to the US in 2009.

### **THE NAVAL AIRSHIP ASSOCIATION:**

Did you know that NAS South Weymouth was originally established as a regular Navy blimp base during the Second World War? Three blimp squadrons (ZP-11, ZP-14, ZJ-1) operated from South Weymouth between 1942 and 1945 and in the post-war era the Naval Air Development Unit (NADU) flew blimps from the base between 1954 and 1961. The Naval Airship Association Inc. is a historical society dedicated to preserving the heritage of Navy lighter-than-air operations. They have a close association with the National Museum of Naval Aviation in Pensacola, FL and periodically run photos and articles involving NAS South Weymouth in their quarterly magazine, “*The Noon Balloon*”. To join send a check for \$20 to the Naval Airship Association, C/O Peter F. Brouwer, 1950 SW Cycle Street, Port St. Lucie FL 34953-1778.

### **THE ASSOCIATION OF NAVAL AVIATION PATRIOT SQUADRON:**

The Association of Naval Aviation Patriot Squadron is a group of Navy veterans and civilians who are establishing a museum dedicated to NAS Squantum and NAS South Weymouth at the “Southfield” development on former NAS South Weymouth. The group operates from temporary quarters in the old base fitness center but will be moving into a permanent museum building in two years. Members meet monthly for lunch on Boston’s South Shore and maintain the base museum, the Shea Field Memorial Grove, and the “7Z” Douglas A-4 Skyhawk. Membership costs \$15/year. To join send a check for \$15 to The ANA Patriot Squadron, 495 Shea Memorial Drive, South Weymouth MA 02190.

**MONTHLY MEETING:**

Don't forget that we meet for lunch on the last Thursday of every month at the Officer's Club at Hanscom AFB in Bedford, MA from 1130 to 1330. Please join us if you can. If you don't have a military ID (base stickers are no longer required) contact Okie O'Connell at 781-335-0553 or Bill Hanigan at 781-585-4950 so your name can be added to the base's security access list. Note, all persons without a military ID are required to enter the base at the civilian gate, not the Hartwell gate.

Note, we will meet for lunch on November 13 and December 18 instead of the last Thursday of those months due to Thanksgiving and Christmas.



***Until Next Time, Lose Not Thy Speed In Flight Lest The Earth Rise Up And Smite Thee – "Frat".***



----- **Please Detach Here** -----

VP-92 POLO SHIRT AND BALLCAP ORDER FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Size and Quantity of Polo Shirts Required: S \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_ L \_\_\_\_\_ XL \_\_\_\_\_ XXL \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity of Blue P-2 Neptune Ball caps with Aviator Wings Required \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity of Blue P-2 Neptune Ball caps with Aircrew Wings Required \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity of Khaki P-2 Neptune Ball caps with Aviator Wings Required \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity of Khaki P-2 Neptune Ball caps with Aircrew Wings Required \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity of Blue P-3 Orion Ball caps with Aviator Wings Required: \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity of Blue P-3 Orion Ball caps with Aircrew Wings Required: \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity of Khaki P-3 Orion Ball caps with Aviator Wings Required: \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity of Khaki P-3 Orion Ball caps with Aircrew Wings Required: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed (\$35 Per Shirt and/or \$20 Per Hat): \$\_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks Payable to "The VP Association" and Mail to William Hanigan, 23 Parkview Terrace, Duxbury MA 02332.